

WINCHESTER PRESS

Wedding

2011

GUIDE

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ideas and
resources
designed to help
you plan the
perfect wedding.*

Winchester Press



On our cover

Pictured on our cover are Martine Bérubé and Andrew Paquette, who were married on July 24, 2010 in Embrun Parish Church. The photo was taken by Studio Bérubé of Russell in the flower garden of Bill and Shirley Arnold of Russell.



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Hunting for *the* one

Talking engagement rings at Annable’s Jewellery

WINCHESTER
For 32 years, Gary Annable has been the man to see when looking to purchase jewellery of a number of different varieties.

From necklaces to watches, and many things in between, the local shop offers it all, and Annable is the face of Annable’s Jewellery and Gifts, the store bearing his name.

But, it wasn’t always this way. At one time, Annable was merely a store employee, working under the shop’s previous owner, Inez Davidson.

It was in those early years where Annable perfected his knowledge of the craft, and began to catalogue the names and faces of repeat customers.

In the span of time, Annable watched as, one by one, local men came through the store’s front door to make the purchase that would prove their romantic commitment – an engagement ring.

“In the beginning, it used to be the man who did the looking,” he said. “But, it has definitely changed over the years.”

Now, he said, the bride-to-be often comes shopping too.

“It’s important to have something that she’ll wear,” said Annable. “Something she likes is important.”

For the ring, yellow-gold used to be the popular choice, but white-gold is starting to make inroads, he added.

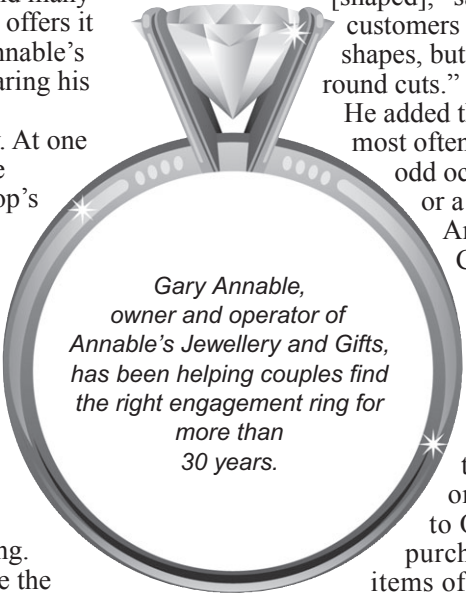
“The cuts are sometimes round or rose [shaped],” said Annable. “Now, many customers are more aware of different shapes, but the trend is still pretty much round cuts.”

He added that the rings purchased are most often diamond based, but on the odd occasion, he will sell a ruby or a sapphire. (As well, said Annable, the store now carries Canadian Ice Diamonds, mined exclusively by the Harry Winston Diamond Corporation.)

To ensure a properly sized band, Annable has a series of brass samples in store. When the size needs to be increased or decreased, Annable travels to Ottawa, with customers’ purchases, once a week to drop the items off at another jeweller he has relied on for years to do the resizing.

With more than three decades experience, Annable said he is as dedicated to his craft now as he was in the beginning.

“I’m selling to second generations now,” Annable said with a laugh. “Maybe I am getting old.”



Gary Annable, owner and operator of Annable’s Jewellery and Gifts, has been helping couples find the right engagement ring for more than 30 years.



Press Photo – Uhrig

Looking for *the* ring? Here’s some help

The *Winchester Press* recently sat down with Gary Annable, owner and operator of Main Street’s Annable’s Jewellery and Gifts. With 32 years in the jewellery business, Annable knows a thing or two about shopping for engagement rings.

Here are some tips

- Shop together, because it’s important to find something she’ll like to wear.
- Take your time, and give consideration to the woman’s occupation. “You wouldn’t want your nurse cutting you with her big ring,” said Annable.
- Try to find a ring that is going to withstand time. “I’m not saying you should overpay, but gold does wear [down],” he said.
- Be realistic. Don’t saddle yourself with years of debt due to a single purchase.
- Give the small stores a chance. “Bigger stores in major malls have to find money to pay rent somehow,” said Annable. “Take that into consideration when making your purchase.... Give the small guys some thought.”

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Bridals sample sale becomes annual event

Bridals' November 2010 Sample Sale generated \$600 for Winchester District Memorial Hospital.



WINCHESTER
Winchester wedding store Bridals has decided to make its sample sale an annual event, based on last year's success.

Back in November 2010, Bridals decided to offer dresses at up to 75 per cent off their regularly ticketed price.

The event also supported the Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH), with \$50 from each gown earmarked for the medical facility located just blocks away from the store.

The busy sale generated \$600 for WDMH, according to Bridals owner Kim Carruthers.

"It was amazingly busy all day," she recalled.

Sample sales are common in the bridal industry. When a woman goes shopping for her wedding dress, she might try on several samples. But unlike jeans or shirts, she'll rarely take home the actual gown she tried on – even if she's perfectly satisfied with it. A brand-new replica is

usually ordered into the store, where it's later tailored to the customer's exact size.

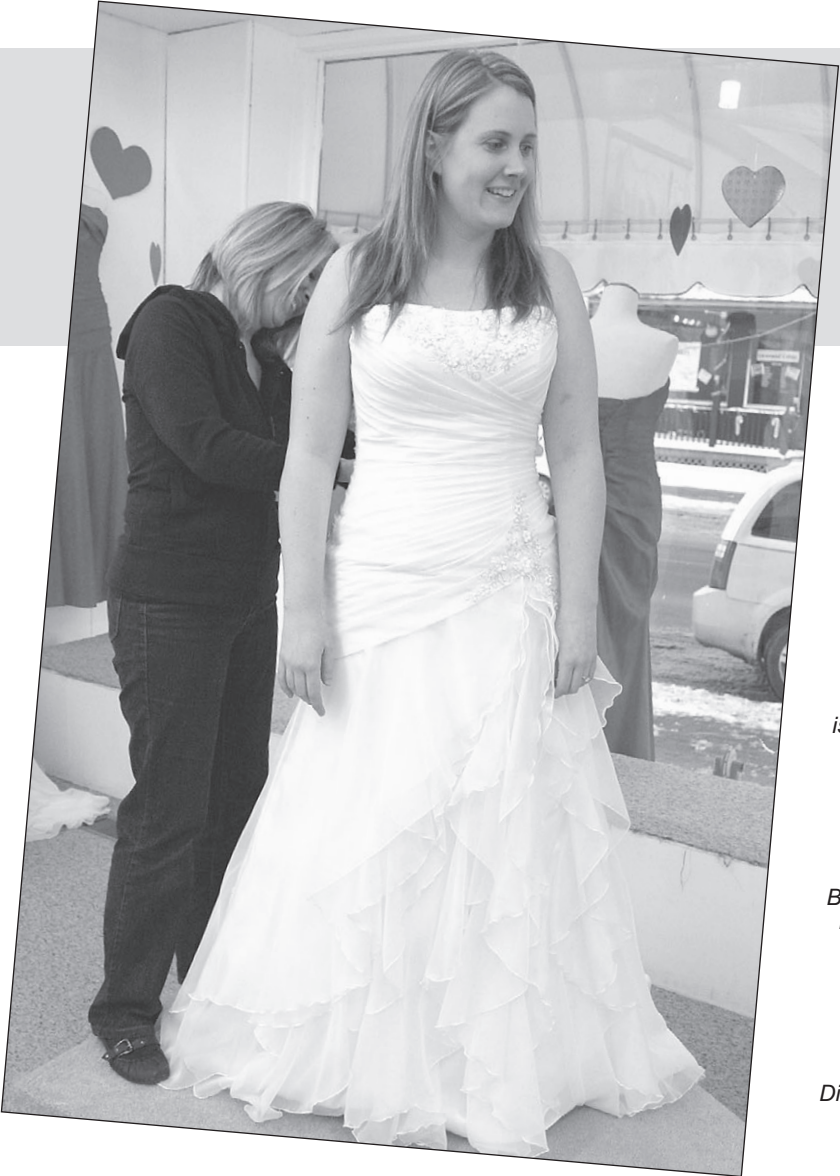
However, when a company "retires" a dress, and it's no longer available, the samples will need to be sold to clear showroom floors for the new stock.

During these sales, women can often get a top-quality wedding gown that looks almost, or exactly, like new.

Carruthers said she plans to hold the fundraiser annually. She hasn't selected a charity for the 2011 sale, although the beneficiary will probably change every year.

Just like in 2010, plans are in the works to have other wedding industry professionals and service providers on site at Bridals. Last November, customers could shop simultaneously for limousine services, photography, cakes, locations, decorating, and more during the event.

Of course, Marion's Flowers and Jewels Esthetics – the two businesses that operate with Bridals at 494 Main Street – will be involved as well.



Mulling it over

Becky Tonner is pictured here trying on a sample dress at Bridals in Winchester, as Wendy Byers assists her. Bridals plans on having another charity sample sale this year. The first-ever event raised \$600 for the Winchester District Memorial Hospital. Press Photo – Smith-Millar



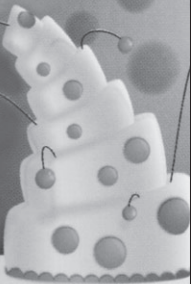
Always a party

Aspiring wedding musicians in the making, perhaps? While their moms, relatives, and grown-up friends shopped at Bridals in Winchester, Taylor Beckstead (front), Aaliyah Hutt, Megan Thompson, and Jaedyn Beckstead entertained patient customers at the business' feature storefront piano. Press Photo – Smith-Millar

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the dress

Disney collection complete at Bridals

WINCHESTER
For little girls who dreamed of looking like their favourite Disney princesses on their wedding day, Bridals has news for you.

The Winchester wedding store was chosen among a few select locations that will carry Disney Fairy Tale Weddings – a new collection by designer Alfred Angelo.

The gowns aren't exact replicas of dresses now immortalized in scenes of the classic movies. However, Angelo's pieces are strongly inspired by the "real" animated gowns.

Actually, some of his creations are pretty close to the Disney frocks, while still maintaining a modern flavour.

"It is a great addition to our bridal selection," said store owner Kim Carruthers, adding that the collection started arriving about six weeks ago. "And the response to these exquisite gowns is already phenomenal."

The princesses featured in the line include: book-smart Belle, heroine of the 1991 masterpiece, *Beauty and the Beast*; Aurora, star of the 1959 Renaissance-inspired *Sleeping Beauty*; Snow White, the original Disney princess and sweetheart of the film company's first-ever feature animation in 1937; Jasmine, exotic heartthrob of the 1992 flick *Aladdin*; liberated domestic slave *Cinderella*, whose gorgeous wedding dress caught everyone's attention back in 1950; and newcomer Tiana, whose piece – inspired by 2009's *The Princess and the Frog* – draws heavily on legendary old-world New Orleans fashion.

The dress in the Angelo line that, perhaps, strays most from the animated original is based on Ariel's dress from the 1989 flick, *The Little Mermaid*. (Women who detested the outrageously puffy sleeves that were popular throughout the 1980s will be relieved to know Angelo



didn't try to revive the trend through his Ariel gown.)

Prom preparation

In other news, Bridals is expanding its prom line and renovating to create a prom-only room.

"It's nice to have an exclusive area for the girls," said manager Kristie Billings.

The room was previously reserved for

office space, but is being reconfigured.

"It's a work in progress," said Billings.

She noted that Bridals is trying to stock more prom dresses, which can range from modest to glitzy; short to floor-length; sleek to puffy.

Recently, the store started stocking more fashion-forward gowns, including edgy dresses by designer Tony Bowls.

"Everybody has such different tastes," noted Billings.



'Tale as old as time...'

Meghan Gilmer (centre) gave the new Alfred Angelo Disney Fairy Tale Weddings line a try while shopping at Bridals. Gilmer is pictured here with a gown inspired by Belle's dress featured at the end of the 1991 classic, *Beauty and the Beast*. Assisting Gilmer is employee Justine Byers. Press Photo – Smith-Millar

Above, from top: Aurora; Jasmine; Cinderella; and Ariel.

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Civil unions popular choice in North Dundas

by Amanda Smith-Millar

WINCHESTER
Couples looking to tie the knot in North Dundas have more options than ever before. Following township council’s decision in January of this year, couples can exchange vows in a civil service – and not necessarily at the North Dundas council chambers. Clerk Jo-Anne McCaslin is now available to officiate at weddings outside regular business hours. Since 2005, the township official has overseen 20 secular services. In the past, couples typically exchanged vows on Tuesdays or Fridays at the offices in Winchester, or another municipal location.

Couples will still pay North Dundas \$300 to get hitched at the township. That fee doesn’t include the marriage licence, which costs \$100 for North Dundas residents and \$125 for non-residents. If the wedding takes place outside business hours, they’ll pay \$150 to the municipality and \$150 to McCaslin (an amount North Dundas council agreed was appropriate to compensate McCaslin for her time). McCaslin said that recently, there have been more requests for civil services, and that’s why she agreed to extend her work week. Besides, McCaslin’s counterpart in South Dundas – clerk Brenda Brunt – has been marrying people on weekends for some time now. “It just seems that there has been

a little more interest,” she told the *Winchester Press* when asked why she decided to take on the additional responsibility. McCaslin isn’t “on call,” but rather she will officiate when she’s available. As far as workplace responsibilities go, solemnizing marriages is one of the clerk’s more fun duties. “It’s quite a pleasant task,” she said. Civil services are often embraced by couples who aren’t affiliated with a church, are not religious, are same-sex, or come from two different religious backgrounds (such as Judaism and Christianity). “Or, maybe they’ve been married once before and want it smaller and quieter this time,” said McCaslin. “It’s an option.”



Couples can exchange vows in a civil service – and not necessarily at the North Dundas council chambers.

Local maple farm under new ownership

Perfect site for outdoor weddings

MOOSE CREEK
Local couples looking for a distinctly natural venue on their wedding day have an option south of Moose Creek. Since 1995, Sand Road Maple Farm has been a prime destination for maple syrup in this portion of eastern Ontario. But since that time, the facility has also been licensed for alcohol consumption, with the on-site banquet hall rented out for wedding ceremonies and the reception that often follows. As well, the business has recently fallen into the hands of new ownership. Crysler resident Angela Coleman, along with her husband, Scott, took over the farm about one year ago.



Angela Coleman and her husband, Scott (not pictured), are the new owners of Sand Road Maple Farm south of Moose Creek. For years, the facility has been known for its maple syrup production, but the on-site banquet hall is available as a venue for weddings and receptions.

“We bought it last March 2010,” she said. “It has been a busy time for both of us.” Coleman said that she and her husband have always been interested in farming, and although their new venture doesn’t have animals, it includes 73 acres of land that requires a lot of work. “The land has been farmed as a maple farm since the 1800s,” said Coleman. “It’s interesting to me how you can go out there and feel how life must have been like 200 years ago.” Coleman said she and her husband also plan to keep the business’ emphasis on healthy living and eating, including serving locally grown food. As well, the farm is partnered with South Nation Conservation (SNC) as a teaching ground for environmental studies. “It’s great for a ecological perspective, and lets you see how things have evolved over time,” she said. For now, said Coleman, she and her husband are simply taking it all in, and enjoying the ride that comes along with their business. “It’s a wild thing, but it’s a lot of fun,” she said. The site is now open on Saturdays and Sundays, and by the beginning of March, it is scheduled to be open throughout the week.

Exchanging vows in the tropics

Many couples are now choosing to unite their destinies in the idyllic setting of a Caribbean or Mexican beach... and who could argue with that? However, as beautiful as it may be, the host country still demands that the lovers comply with certain formalities. In Cuba, the bride and groom must bring certificates from a first marriage as well as the divorce papers, all documents having been translated into Spanish. Only civil weddings are authorized for foreigners and can only take place on a week day. In Mexico, on-site blood tests are obligatory. A minimum of four witnesses is required and, as well as having passports, everyone must bring their birth certificates translated into Spanish. Jamaica is a magical destination and very popular for

this type of occasion. Anyone wishing to be married there must stay for a minimum of 24 hours. Religious weddings are permitted and will cost between \$50 and \$250 (US). The marriage certificate will cost another \$150 and passports and birth certificates must also be produced. To be able to exchange vows on the beaches of the Turks and Caicos Islands, the bride and groom must have in their possession a letter from a lawyer or a notary specifying their age, occupation, father’s name, marital status and place of residence. After having been in the country for 24 hours, a marriage licence must be applied for at the Registrar’s office on the island of Grand Turk. The waiting period is from two to three days... but time passes quickly under the tropical sun!



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40th anniversary celebrations kick-started with prize

METCALFE

When it comes to weddings, there is sometimes a significant expense involved.

From location costs to paying for food and drinks, it's easy for a final total to skyrocket above and beyond the budget initially planned.

But, Metcalfe-based company AJ's Catering, owned by Al Graham, is hoping to ease some of the financial burden.

Through its \$8,000 deluxe wedding package draw, soon-to-be married couples have the chance to cross some big-ticket items off their mounting wedding planning list.

"We're going into our 40th year of business," said Susan Faith-Lecoupe, wedding and events co-ordinator at AJ's. "So Al wanted to do something sort of

special to commemorate such an event."

Included in the prize is \$5,000 worth of catering from AJ's, a \$1,000 travel voucher from Winchester Travel, a disc-jockey package from PM Event Services, and a decorated bridal arch from Joy to Share.

Terrace Green Bed and Breakfast owners Jim and Annette Angus also have added their services to the package. On top of everything else, the winners would receive one night's accommodation at the bed and breakfast,

as well as full use of the grounds – inside and out – for wedding photos.

Faith-Lecoupe said it's important to work with other local businesses from a networking aspect.

"We're letting the public know that they don't have to go to Cornwall or Ottawa for their wedding planning," she said. "There is a large group of us in this area, and by networking, we're

building a strong base."

Although the contest is grand, it is not open to just any couple. Only

clients who have booked their catering service through AJ's are eligible. Those interested must be entered into the contest by Fri., April 15.

Wedding show update

In other news from AJ's, Faith-Lecoupe said she is in the midst of planning a small spring wedding show featuring about 20 vendors.

Scheduled for Sat., April 16, the event is set to be held at the new community centre adjacent to Our Lady of the Visitation Church in South Gloucester (5338 Bank Street near Mitch Owens Road) from 10 am to 4 pm.

"I'm calling it 'an afternoon of experts,' which will give guests a chance for one-on-one time with each [vendor]," said Faith-Lecoupe.

"There is a large group of us in this area, and by networking, we're building a strong base."

– Susan Faith-Lecoupe

Ten trends for 'green' weddings

Environmentally friendly ideals are now permeating all aspects of daily living. Many people want to take the concept further and ensure their nuptials – and subsequent reception – are good for the planet as well.

Although there are no firm statistics on the number of green weddings being held each year, emerging trends point to the growing interest in eco-conscious weddings. Individuals who already do their best to recycle, reuse, and reduce want to employ those same values on their wedding day.

There are many ways to employ a green mind set to wedding planning and execution. Largely the carbon footprint of a wedding can be reduced simply by scaling back and avoiding over-consumption. Here are some ideas to think about.

1. Reduce travel. Research indicates that more than two-thirds of emissions in North America are produced by energy consumption and transportation. By reducing guests' need to travel far for a wedding or offering transportation that can accommodate several people at once (like a bus), carbon emissions will be reduced.

2. Home is where the heart is. Keeping weddings close to home is helpful. Those with big back yards or a park nearby can host the event at home or in a nearby park and reduce dependence on large reception halls that use up large amounts of energy to operate. A home wedding also gives couples the opportunity to shop around for locally produced, organic foods.

3. Shop for floral alternatives. Flowers would seem "green" in themselves. However, many blooms available at florist shops are grown in hothouses with the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers, something that is not very good for the environment at all. Brides opting for something more eco-conscious could consider alternative options, such as bouquets made of sustainable succulent plants and centerpieces full of organic fruits and wildflowers.

4. Choose an open registry. Instead of fine china that may never be used, many couples are opting for open registries that enable guests to gift everything from eco-friendly housewares to charitable donations to cash for down payments on a home.

5. Opt for mixed seating arrangements. Instead of formal

escort cards indicating firm seating arrangements, couples are saving paper by allowing guests to choose their own seats from mix-matched options, such as long, communal benches and comfy sofas.

6. Go with something old. Recycled gowns and gently used items are good alternatives for eco-conscious brides. Many websites will match up brides with others looking to swap items at low or no cost.

7. Skip the paper. Though etiquette experts frown on abandoning paper invitations for electronic ones, many couples are doing just that. For those who still prefer paper, print invitations on recycled paper. Reduce other wedding stationery needs by posting information on a wedding website shared with family and friends.

8. Go small scale. Instead of inviting every last cousin and distant uncle, couples are opting for more intimate affairs, including only the people they are closest to, which saves on cost and helps the environment.

9. Trim some of the wedding day fat. Some couples opt for an all-you-can-eat buffet and then a subsequent dessert bar later on in the evening. Stuffed guests



Green wedding trends are growing in popularity as more brides and grooms want to be eco-friendly.

may end up wasting more food than eating it. Instead of all-you-can, go for a more traditional meal.

10. Choose a charitable party favour. Instead of a party favour that collects dust on a shelf, couples are choosing to gift with organic products or a donation to a charitable organization in the guests' names.



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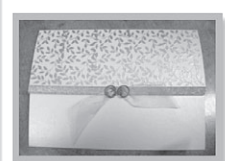
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Responsibilities of the groomsmen

Happy couples choose friends and family members to serve as attendants in their weddings. Bridesmaids and groomsmen each have different responsibilities in the wedding.

In ancient times, groomsmen essentially served as the groom's bodyguards, ensuring that he made it safely to the altar and to his future wife. Today, the groomsmen's roles are not based on saving life and limb.

Today's groomsmen serve as assistants to the groom and help plan the bachelor party. They also usher guests down the aisle at the ceremony. They also may have a few other responsibilities, depending on what the couple wants of their assistants.

Before the wedding

- Help pick out the tuxedos and show up for fittings.

- Help plan and share the cost of the bachelor party.
- Attend rehearsals for the ceremony and appear at the rehearsal dinner.
- Pay for their own wedding attire or formal wear rentals.
- Help unload cars with supplies if the couple is doing the decorating themselves.
- Pay for their travel expenses and accommodation during the celebration.
- Return formal wear for themselves and the groom.
- Provide transportation for the couple to the airport or honeymoon destination if the best man is unavailable.

During the ceremony

- Greet and seat guests at the ceremony in the appropriate rows or pews.
- Stand near the groom during the ceremony.



The groomsmen have several different responsibilities before, during and after the wedding ceremony.

- Serve as escorts for the bridesmaids at the ceremony.
- Cater to anyone's needs and mingle with the guests afterward.

Party time

- Ensure that the groom does not get too intoxicated.

- Sit at the table of honour beside the rest of the bridal party.
- Mingle with the guests.
- Participate in all photos if asked.
- Dance with their bridesmaid counterpart.
- Help load the wedding gifts into the car afterward.

The flower girl: a miniature bride!

Even though the bride's gown must always have a strong influence on the flower girl's outfit, designers make a real effort to allow these little girls plenty of freedom in their movements while giving them all the pleasure of being a princess for the day.

It is true, of course, that children's fashions are often modelled after those of adults. The younger members of the bridal procession are no exception to this rule. Many details, such as the cut and the fabrics, are borrowed from the bride's apparel. This being said, however, many elements of the flower girl's dress are often drawn from fantasy, making it very "little girlish."

This is why two styles of dress compete for the flower girl's favour: the dress with a low waistline highlighted

by a wide silk sash and the frothy dress with straps and flowery patterns.

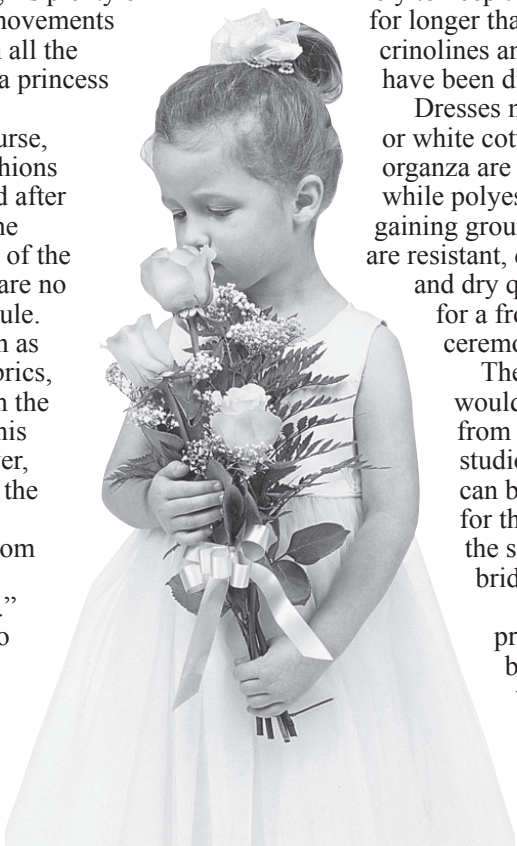
To allow children younger than seven to be comfortable and more

likely to keep their dresses on for longer than an hour or so, crinolines and stiff fabrics have been discarded.

Dresses made from satin or white cotton covered with organza are very popular, while polyester fabrics are gaining ground. These fabrics are resistant, don't crease and dry quickly... perfect for a frolic after the ceremony!

The bride-to-be would probably benefit from a visit to a dress studio where a dress can be custom made for the little girl in the same fabric as the bridal gown.

The bridal procession will be enhanced if the flower girl's outfit resembles that of the bride, with the exception of the lace.



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Flair in men's wear

Daring accent colours return to masculine colour palette

MOOSE CREEK

Can a man be pretty in pink? It's certainly true in the formal wear industry.

Recently, the rosy pastel shade made a triumphant return to the tie rack, along with purple, baby blue, salmon, lilac, and other hues once dismissed as "girly."

It's common to see groomsmen sporting cheerful apple-green or canary-yellow vests – and sometimes, a matching pocket square.

Richard Théoret has definitely noticed a revived interest in daring accent colours.

"It seems to be a trend," observed the Richard Men's Wear owner.

Along with his nephew, David, Richard makes sure his Moose Creek Mall store offers the classic colours like charcoal and dark blue alongside more adventurous shades and patterns, like spice red fusion and magenta plaid.

"There are hundreds of colours to choose from," David noted.

Actually, ladies might be a driving force behind the more extravagant shades in ties, vests, and pocket squares.

Grooms' attire tends to stay neutral to complement the bride's white dress, explained Richard. But the bride may select an exciting colour for the bridesmaids, and ensure the groomsmen's attire looks good with that shade.

Teenage boys also shop at Moose Creek. They're typically on the hunt for a vest or tie to match their prom date's dress (and score brownie points in the process).

"I'm not sure if it's the influence from the girls," said Richard with a laugh. "But [accent colours are] what they're requesting. And they're not afraid of wearing them anymore."

The Théorets have noticed that vented jackets, flat-front pants, ties, and vests have emerged as popular trends in men's fashion recently. Bow ties and cummerbunds have taken a back seat.

Choose early

David has seen men's fashion evolve throughout his 12 years in the industry. So has Richard, who has more than three decades' experience.

However, one aspect of wedding attire hasn't changed: the need to start planning early.



Freeman Formalwear accessories in the energy pattern, bubblegum colour.

David noted that the bride and groom should meet at the store together and decide on colour schemes and preferences as soon as possible. That will allow the wedding party members enough time to set up an appointment and be measured by either David or Richard (they insist on doing all the measurements themselves to ensure accuracy).

On the off-chance a tie colour isn't available for a larger party of groomsmen, Richard Men's Wear will have more made up locally, providing there's extra material available. (While the typical number of men in a party is four or five, David recalls one massive order for 14 members.)

Canadians: all about class

Italy maintains its international reputation for top-quality, stylish suits, David and Richard noted. But Canada emerges as a close competitor, and maintains a significant export market to the U.S.

"First, it's Italian; second, it's Canadian," said David.

Much of the fine material is imported from Europe, and the suits are created in Canada.

"We still manufacture a good suit here in Canada," said Richard. "We are recognized worldwide for our Canadian manufacturing... It's one of the trades we have left."

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Inspiration and excavation

It's prom paradise beneath Salon Alliance Bridal Boutique-Chez Ginette



Disco dream

Salon Alliance Bridal Boutique-Chez Ginette in Moose Creek recently underwent a major expansion – or, more specifically, excavation. The new basement of the business has allowed for an entire floor to be dedicated to prom dresses. Pictured are consultants Katerina Dova (left) and Tania Gill, with store owner Ginette Lemieux.

Press Photo – Smith-Millar

MOOSE CREEK
After a long and involved renovation and excavation process, the popular formal wear shop Salon Alliance Bridal Boutique has expanded to include two levels.

Now, there's plenty of room upstairs for the wedding section and downstairs for the Glitz and Glamour Prom Shop.

The expanded work space was very much needed, according to owner Ginette Lemieux.

"We love it. It's huge, it's spacious," said Lemieux.

"We [created] a whole floor beneath our existing store." While a sea of elegant couture bridal gowns greet customers upstairs, it's prom paradise below deck. Rows of brightly coloured dresses fill the racks, with each item as different as every graduating student. The frocks range from simple to fancy; billowing to form-fitting; long to short; unadorned to beaded to covered with rhinestones.

There's a seating area downstairs, multiple mirrors, a disco ball, and hit music playing in the background.

Salon Alliance-Chez Ginette is a family-run business that has been around for more than 30 years. Besides the bridal section and the Glitz and Glamour Prom Shop, there's Chez Ginette's Sportswear, as well as attire for mothers of the bride, bridesmaids, flower girls, and wee ring bearers.

Worth the drive

The phenomenon of Moose Creek's success frequently fascinates outsiders. What would inspire a teenager to drive (or plead for a ride courtesy of the Mom or Dad Taxi Service) all the way out to Moose Creek to go prom shopping?

"Probably 1,400 dresses in stock would do it!" said Lemieux with a laugh.

Her daughter, Valerie, also works in the store and specializes in prom attire.

She noted that prom has emerged as one of the rites of passage these days.

"I think prom is getting to be a very important stage in life," she said. "I found that it was a really exciting and fun time... It's the last step before life gets serious, in a way."

A touch of colour

In the last 20 years, more and more colour has been appearing in bridal gowns. At first, colour was added with discreet floral motifs, but now brides are more daring, adding brightly coloured accessories and even using plain or printed coloured fabrics.

In fact, blue was a traditional colour for Christian weddings until Queen Victoria wore white at her wedding in the nineteenth century. The popular saying, "Married in blue, you will always be true," spoke of how the colour was considered a mark of purity for young brides. In ancient Rome, the bride and groom used to wear blue, which symbolized love and fidelity.

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‘Shop local’ strategy

Bed and breakfast owner steps into wedding planner’s shoes

WINCHESTER

It was only a matter of time before Annette Angus became a wedding planner.

The Terrace Green Bed & Breakfast owner decided to take a bridal consultant course after she had a blast hosting four weddings at her Winchester home.

Angus decided to give online education a try, and settled on an Ashworth College program.

She spent seven months balancing work with what she found to be a “very comprehensive” class.

From booking venues, to selecting a caterer, to intercultural weddings, Angus got the thorough educational background she wanted – and graduated with honours.

“Basically, it gave me a lot of confidence,” she said.

Regardless of whether a wedding and reception takes place on or off her property, Angus’ services are available for hire. Sometimes – as is the case for both the July and October weddings she’s currently helping to co-ordinate – Terrace Green will host the ceremony, but guests will transfer to a local venue to party the night away during the reception.



Annette Angus, owner of Terrace Green Bed & Breakfast.

Each client will determine Angus’ level of involvement.

“It takes about 250 hours to put a wedding together,” she explained, adding that every customer can decide how much responsibility Angus will assume.

Finances shouldn’t be a barrier to making your dream day come true.

Angus can help clients maximize their experience, regardless of whether they have a large, medium, or small budget.

“I’ll work with you,” she noted.

Work and fun are bundled into one. Angus will remain flexible, and is more than happy to use her imagination and create a one-of-a-kind “themed” event. In fact, preparations are already underway on a western-style ceremony at Terrace Green – complete with an on-horseback vow exchange, and guest seating in the form of hay bales covered with blankets.

Terrace Green is already more than a bed and breakfast. The stately house and picturesque property are also used as a venue for luncheons, meetings, receptions, and seminars.

Angus and her husband, Jim, nonetheless decided that wedding



planning services would be a smart addition to what’s already offered through the 11952 County Road 43 business.

After all, many wedding parties have used the facility as a photo shoot location. And the bed-and-breakfast allows the bridal party members to stay overnight if they want, have their makeup done and hair styled on-site – and even receive some old-fashioned mothering from Angus, who in the past has made sandwiches for her customers “so that they remember to eat,” she noted with a laugh.

Angus also is encouraging clients to shop locally, and hopes to draw business from the surrounding region.

In the industry, planners are supposed to compile a ranking of “preferred vendors” to show their customers. The neophyte planner did exactly that – and the list includes as many area businesses and service providers as possible.

Angus pointed out that whether the happy couple is looking for a caterer, florist, decorator, jeweller, honeymoon trip co-ordinator, photographer, DJ, minister, church, reception venue, printing services, or formal wedding attire, Winchester and the area offers all that, and more.

“We have a beautiful bridal store,” she pointed out, referring to the Main Street business in the village. “We try to use local people.”



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WINCHESTER

Local wine connoisseurs may know of the little shop at 503 Main Street in Winchester. Whether you drink the alcoholic beverage, or make it from fermented fruit juices once a month, or more often than that, The Town Vintner has you covered.

From mists to merlots, the shop's owner, Joan Shirreffs, can provide the right beverage for a romantic dinner for two or a much larger celebration.

Shirreffs knows a thing or two about the number of bottles needed for a wedding day.

"Getting your wine at a licensed business can be costly," she said. "There are savings to be found here."

The downtown store is set up in a way that lets couples getting married come in and make their own wine, leaving it afterward to sit for the appropriate number of days, and then return to bottle it themselves when ready. By having a hand in the production process,



Wedding wines

Town Vintner owner Joan Shirreffs has a number of different options available for couples looking to provide wine on their wedding day. Press Photo – Uhrig

the price is often much lower for customers, Shirreffs added.

On average, the bottle and wine at the Town Vintner costs roughly \$5, much less than at many specialty shops.

"It's definitely a big savings," said Shirreffs.

For roughly 200 wedding guests, three batches of wine would produce an ample amount, she added.

Couples can also purchase decorative labels, where a special message can be added before the label is applied to the bottle.

Shirreffs carries approximately six different lines of wine at her shop, each of which includes about 20 varieties.

At the moment, she is taking orders for the approaching wedding season.

"I've got five or so already," said Shirreffs.

Anniversaries



35th Anniversary

Happy 35th Wedding Anniversary Chris and Marilyn Vriend (nee Duncan). Married June 12, 1976 at Osgoode Baptist Church, Vernon. Congratulations and our best wishes for health and happiness, with love from your entire family.



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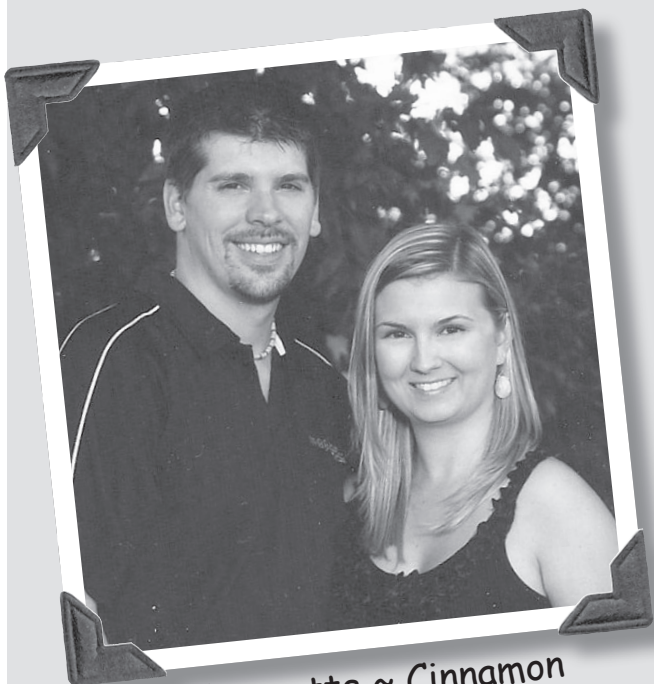
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**Choquette ~ Cinnamon**

John and Linda Cinnamon of Winchester are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Devon Cinnamon, to Kristen Choquette of Ottawa. The wedding is planned for September 10, 2011.

**Bellinger ~ Osborne**

Winston and Heather Bellinger of Vernon, and Aubrey and Clare Osborne of Carleton Place, are very pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their children, Susan and John, on Saturday, September 24, 2011 in Vernon. Love and best wishes to you both for a wonderful life together.

**Vriend ~ Thompson**

Donna and Francis Vriend and Mary and Don Thompson are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Courtney Vriend and Michael Thompson. The wedding will take place Saturday, June 25, 2011, at the home of the groom's parents. Much love and happiness to you both.

Engagements**Weagant ~ Corput**

Bob and Sandra Weagant and John and Alida Corput are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Stacey Weagant and Andy Corput. The wedding will take place July 16, 2011 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chesterville.

**Carbino ~ Doll**

Ronnie and Cathy Carbino of Finch are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Michelle, to Mark, son of Jeff and Marilyn Doll of Manotick. Their wedding will take place on September 24, 2011.

**McCadden ~ Morozuk**

The families of Sandy McCadden and Justin Morozuk are very excited to announce their forthcoming marriage, Saturday, June 11, 2011 at 2 pm at Our Lady of Visitation Church, Ottawa. Sandy is the daughter of Thomas McCadden (Joan Davis) and Jean (Arden) Carruthers. Justin is the son of Karen Morozuk (the late Frank). Dinner to follow at the Chesterville Legion with an open reception from 9:00 pm to 1:00 am.

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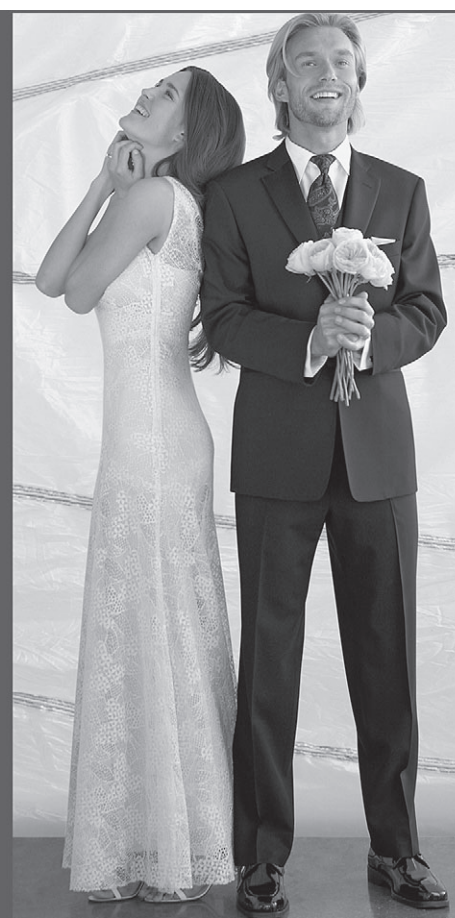
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**Smith ~ Sharpe**

Paul and Susan Smith are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter Melissa to Andrew Sharpe. The wedding date is June 4, 2011.

**Armstrong ~ Chambers**

Friends and family are delighted to announce the upcoming wedding of Jennifer Armstrong, daughter of Bruce and Joanne Armstrong of Russell, to Jason Chambers, son of Brenda and the late Patrick Chambers of Chesterville. Wedding is to take place September 24, 2011. The families wish them love and happiness as they start the next chapter of their lives together.

**Berry ~ Whyte**

Paul and Elaine Berry of Winchester are pleased to announce our daughter Pam's engagement to Rob Whyte, son of Wayne and June Whyte of Edwards. Pam and Rob reside in Osgoode. The wedding will take place on July 31, 2011 at Bean Town Ranch in Plantagenet.

Engagements**Van Gorp ~ Wright**

Tony and Betty Van Gorp of Chesterville are very pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Jenny to Lee, son of Dan and Diane Wright of Mountain. The wedding is planned for the winter of 2011. Congratulations to you both.

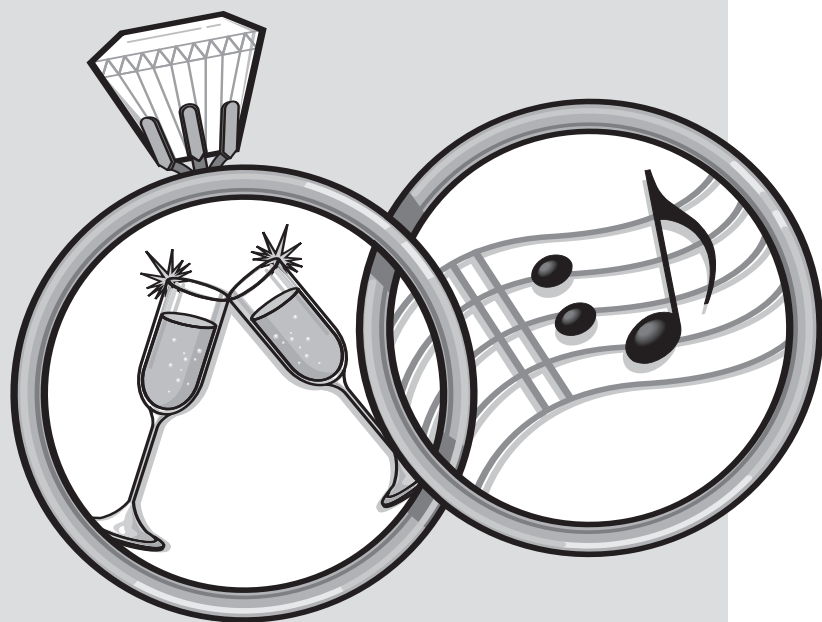
**Guy ~ Reaney**

Along with their parents, families, and especially Ellen and Gavin, Emma Guy and Scott Reaney are excited to announce their engagement and forthcoming wedding. The wedding ceremony will take place on Saturday, October 8, 2011 in Merrickville. "Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be."
- Robert Browning

**Mayhew ~ Uhrig**

Matthew Uhrig and Brittany Mayhew, both of Ottawa, are pleased to announce their engagement. The wedding is currently scheduled to take place in the summer of 2012.

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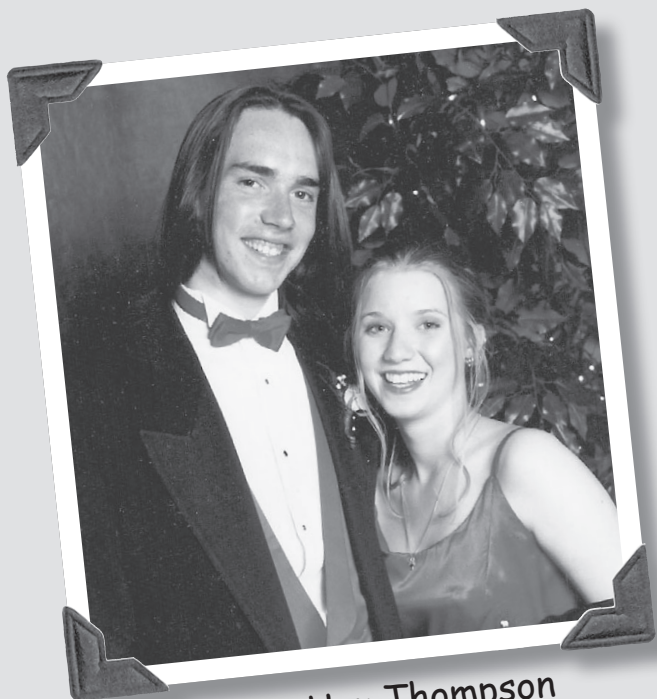
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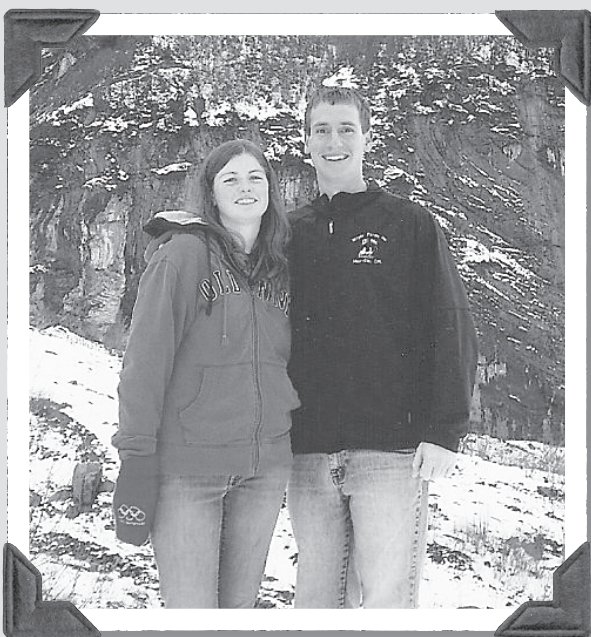
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daughter of Sharlene and Jim Fawcett,
to be married to Jeffrey Thompson of Winchester,
son of Linda and the late Richard Thompson.
An August wedding is planned.

**Coyne ~ VanderWielen**

Steph Coyne and Steve VanderWielen are pleased to announce their engagement.
Steph is the daughter of Frances and Mike Coyne of Chesterville and Steve is the son of Frank and Chantal VanderWielen of Maxville.
The wedding will take place in Chesterville on September 17, 2011.

**Skuce ~ McMaster**

Lyle and Karen Skuce of Winchester announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Lynn Skuce, to Stephen Michael McMaster, son of Kenneth McMaster of Strathcona County, Alberta and Linda McMaster of Sherwood Park, Alberta. Melissa is a graduate of Trent University, Peterborough - Bachelor of Arts Honours and Queen's University, Kingston - Bachelor of Education-Concurrent Education. Stephen is a graduate of University of Alberta - Bachelor of Education - Physics, Chemistry and Physical Education. Both are employed as teachers in Bonnyville-Cold Lake, Alberta. A July wedding is planned in Winchester. Congratulations from your family.

**VandenBerg ~ DeSchiffart**

Brian and Elisabeth VandenBerg are thrilled to announce the engagement of their daughter Erika to Ian son of Charley and Helen DeSchiffart of Nepean. A summer wedding is planned for July 30, 2011. We love you both and wish you God's blessings for a lifetime of happiness together.

**Grondin ~ Howat**

David and Sheila (Coyne) Howat of Cryslar are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Ross Howat to Valerie Grondin, daughter of Daniel and Lise (Godard) of Cornwall. Their wedding is planned for August 25, 2012 at St. Columban's Church in Cornwall.

**Milne ~ Brehl**

Bonnie Milne and Gord, Christine Milne, and Bill and Andrea Brehl, and Fred Anderson are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their children Allyson to Jesse. The wedding is to take place August 27, 2011 in Winchester.



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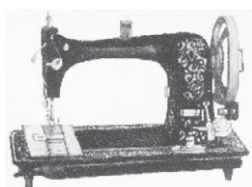
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SEWING SHOP



Thirty-eight years in, Shad's Disco still spinning the hits

Weddings, anniversary parties
key to success

WINCHESTER

For Jamie Shadbolt, living a life surrounded by music wasn't something he planned.

The art form pulsed through the speakers of transistor radios when he was younger, and by his teenage years, Shadbolt was spinning records.

For the proprietor of Shadbolt's Department Store in Winchester, music has become an escape from the daily grind of operating his own business – a chance to morph into the man behind the microphone of Shad's Disco.

Shadbolt credits his father and Winchester Lions Club member, Walter, with giving him his start in the disc-jockey (DJ) business.

"It's really funny how it all got started," he said.

As the story goes, a much younger Shadbolt didn't yet meet the age requirements to join the local Lions, something he desperately wanted.

But, one night when the Lions were hosting a social gathering, the DJ hired for the evening failed to arrive, Shadbolt recalled.

Knowing his son had recently purchased a new hi-fi stereo, the elder called his son to come down to the hall and get the party started.

"I got my start with a much older crowd," he said. "I was playing the old albums... Stuff like Guy Lombardo."

Today, it has been 38 years since that first night, and in that time, Shadbolt has seen the successive rise and fall of

multiple advancements in musical technology. From eight-tracks to cassette tapes, and now CDs, he has changed with the times. (Shadbolt said he has looked into converting all his music to a digital format, but hasn't yet made the switch.)

"It's really hard to believe it has been that

long," he said. "But, somehow, I'm still rolling along."

He started working as a DJ on the weekends just for fun. Despite his constant duties at the department store, he has kept on going.

"I started getting calls all the time," he said. "That helped to build a reputation, and I've been going back and forth between younger and older crowds."

Shadbolt's well of resources, which came in the form of various friends and family members who were either getting married or hosting anniversary parties, helped him garner success in the beginning.

"I played for a lot of friends at their weddings," said Shadbolt. "Now all of



A DJ's double life

Jamie Shadbolt is not only the owner of Shadbolt's Department Store. He also offers his services as a disc-jockey through his second business, Shad's Disco.

Press Photo – Uhrig

a sudden, their kids are calling me... It's quite a circle."

His DJ service serves as a second income stream during the slower seasons of his store's operation.

"It has been a real lifesaver, and it certainly helps now," said Shadbolt, who

will be closing his downtown shop in June.

So, is Shadbolt more relaxed now that he's a veteran within the local DJ industry? Not a chance.

"I'm just as nervous now as I was when I started," he said with a laugh. "I mean it – I'll be sweating bullets up there."

Did you know?

Though it's difficult to call it official, the 2004 wedding of Vanisha Mittal, daughter of steel tycoon Lakshmi Mittal, is considered the most expensive wedding in history. With a final tab of \$60 million, the wedding included invitations mailed in silver boxes, rooms at a five-star Paris hotel and performances by pop singer Kylie Minogue.

That final price tag dwarfs another famously expensive wedding, that of British soccer star Wayne Rooney and his wife Coleen McLoughlin. The Manchester United star reportedly spent \$8 million on their nuptials, which included a chartered flight for friends to Genoa for a masked ball on a yacht valued at well over \$100 million.

You might recall a more recent and extravagant wedding, that of former first daughter Chelsea Clinton, whose 2010 wedding reportedly cost between \$3 million and \$5 million.

A similar price tag was given to Beatles legend Paul McCartney in 2002 when he married former model Heather Mills. Unfortunately, that cost did not guarantee marital bliss, as the couple separated in 2006, eventually divorcing in 2008.



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Strban ~ Stoodley
Melissa Stoodley and Scott Strban were married on September 18, 2010 at Honey Due Farms (home of the bride's parents John and Debbie Stoodley).



Douglas ~ Scott
Lori and Doug Scott and Catherine and Kirk Douglas are pleased to announce the marriage of their children. Morgan and Bryce were married in Kemptville on August 21, 2010. A reception followed at Orchardview. They now reside in Hallville.



Peplinski ~ Nolan
Terry and Marj Nolan of Osgoode are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Jackie, to Trevor Peplinski, son of Stanley and Rita Peplinski, of Barry's Bay. The wedding took place September 18, 2010 at Our Lady of the Visitation Church, South Gloucester. The happy couple honeymooned in Vermont and now reside in Ottawa. Congratulations and love from your families.



Heuff ~ Davidson
Jen Davidson and Jason Heuff celebrated their wedding day along with their sons Jaymen and Jordan on September 18, 2010. We would like to thank our wonderful family, friends, guests, and wedding party for making our day so special. Also, we were so happy to have Great Nanna, Shirley Davidson, celebrating her 89th birthday with us on our special day.



Happy 1st Anniversary Kathryn and Gregory Bint
Married on January 18, 2010 at Ottawa City Hall. Kathryn is the daughter of Bill and Jo-Anne Hoftyzer of Dixons Corners. Greg is the son of Glen and Laurie Bint and Sue and Graham Galipeau, formerly of Winchester. Kathryn and Greg live in Ottawa.

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Wedding day transportation options abound

Wedding transportation is perhaps something grooms-to-be can get excited about. After all, we're talking about cars – some fancy, some large, and many decked out with different features. Plus, it's traditionally the responsibility of the groom to arrange transportation to and from the ceremony, reception and the hotel or honeymoon destination.

Grooms responsible for arranging transportation can consider the following options.

- **Limousine:** A limo is one of the most traditional methods of transport on a couple's wedding day. A limousine's size enables them to carry the bridal party in its entirety. Because the bride and groom often do not see each other before the ceremony, two limos may be rented, one larger for the bridal party, and one smaller for the bride and her parents, depending on personal preference.

- **Classic car:** Sports car enthusiasts may want to make an entrance – and exit – behind the wheel of a sporty vehicle. These can include a high-end Ferrari or an Aston Martin. Because of their high



Travel to the chapel

Besides limousines, unconventional wedding day transportation can include horse-drawn carriages, motorcycles, boats, and more.

Photo courtesy of Studio Bérubé



A limousine is one of the most traditional modes of transportation for the bridal couple.

purchase price, sports car rentals may carry a premium.

- **Stretch SUV:** The traditional limo has morphed into the stretch SUV of popular models, including the Cadillac Escalade, Ford Expedition or even a stretch Hummer. Because of their popularity, these rentals may be snatched up quickly. Be sure to book well in advance of the big day.

- **Party Bus:** Many couples are leaning toward a party bus rental, which may be a single- or double-decker bus that can fit scores of people inside. These are particularly attractive to couples with a very large bridal party, or those who hope to begin the celebration even before reaching the reception hall.

- **Horse-drawn carriage:** Some couples truly want the fairy tale feel on their wedding day. A horse-drawn carriage can evoke feelings of a Cinderella-type day. The carriage tends to be best suited to warm weather. For winter weddings, a horse-drawn sleigh might make a better alternative.

- **Motorcycle:** Exciting couples may

want to ride off into the sunset on the back of a roadster or sports bike.

- **Horses:** Horses can haul more than just a carriage. A bride and groom atop a handsome steed can make for a memorable wedding transportation option and equally memorable photos.

- **Boat:** Individuals getting married by the sea or another body of water may want to consider attending the festivities via boat, be it a large vessel or a more intimate canoe or rowboat.

Wedding day transportation varies

depending on each couple's preference. Here are some other things to keep in mind concerning transportation.

- Be sure to have transportation options at the ready for guests who may have over-indulged on alcoholic beverages.

- Wedding party participants who arrived at the wedding by a limo or other source will need a ride home somehow.

- Find out if a hotel nearby offers complimentary transportation to and from the reception hall.



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Honeymoon planning how-to

With all the work that goes into planning a wedding, it can be easy for couples to overlook their own honeymoons. But in the middle of all those seating arrangements and reception hall negotiations, couples also need to plan and look forward to the rest and relaxation that awaits, which will no doubt be a well-deserved escape once the wedding has come and gone.

Couples can take the following advice to ensure their getaway goes off without a hitch.

- **Be budget-conscious.** Many couples could enjoy a honeymoon to Siberia in the dead of winter after their big day has passed. After all the stress of planning and paying for the wedding, couples will likely just enjoy the time away. Take this into consideration when planning a honeymoon. If a dream trip isn't in the budget after all the wedding bills have come due, don't fret. A less expensive getaway is still a getaway, and couples will enjoy their well-deserved break no matter where it is they're putting their feet up.

- **Plan an off-season honeymoon.** That dream honeymoon might be affordable after all if couples can wait till it's not the height of tourist season. Most weddings occur during the summer months, when tourist season is in full swing. Couples who can put off their honeymoon until the off-season will no doubt find their dream

honeymoon is much more affordable.

- **Start early.** It's never too early to start planning the honeymoon. The earlier couples begin to research possible destinations, the better feel they will have for what they can and can't afford. Research can be done well in advance to give couples an idea of what their dream trip will cost. But don't book any flights or make any reservations too far in advance. The best deals are often available a few months before the trip.

- **Spread the news that you're newlyweds.** Hotels love hosting newlyweds, and many will upgrade rooms for recently married guests. Couples should not be too brash about it, as fully booked hotels won't be able to upgrade their guests. But let the hotel know you're on your honeymoon when checking in, and they might just upgrade your room and give you a bottle of champagne as a gift.

- **Think outside the box.** When asked about a dream honeymoon, couples will often bring up Hawaii or even Paris. While those are beautiful places to spend a honeymoon, they're also expensive. Fortunately, there are a bevy of locales, be it domestic or international, that aren't nearly as pricey as the most popular honeymoon destinations but still make wonderful options for a honeymoon getaway couples won't soon forget.

Dream destination

Celebrate your new life together at an exotic location

If your ideal honeymoon involves a faraway place, there are many destinations off the beaten path worth considering.

A stay in South Africa can be envisaged at almost any time of the year. A visit to the western part of the country, including to the Cape and for safaris at reserves such as Shamwari, Tsitsikamma, and Adu, is best planned between September and May. For the eastern zone, including the area of Kruger National Park and neighbouring private reserves, the period from April to November is more suitable.

The Mexican Caribbean and Pacific coasts are ideal for winter, spring, and fall trips. The hurricane season is typically from August to mid-October, and June is the rainy season. One of the most popular tourist destinations is Cancun, situated on an immense coral peninsula surrounded by the turquoise waters of the Caribbean.

Visit Tahiti from the middle of April to the middle of October, when trade winds are more active and the temperature is slightly more comfortable. Count on seeing spectacular beaches, where the water temperature hovers around 24 to 28 °C. It is even warmer in the lagoons and on the beaches sheltered by the barrier reefs.

A trip to Brazil can be planned at any time of the year, although the

Amazon and the Pantanal are best visited from June to September. Unless you've booked far in advance, try to avoid Rio de Janeiro during Carnival in January and February. The Brazilian summer vacation period can also make for over-crowded beaches.



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Flowery dresses embrace romantic style

MOOSE CREEK

Vivian Théoret remembers the days when a gal regularly left the house with a faux flower on her lapel.

So, the bridal industry expert isn't surprised that decorative floral accents have bloomed again.

"All fashion is a repeat," said Théoret with a smile.

The owner of Juliannah's Dress and Bridal noted that the "resurgence of flower power" is one of many trends jazzing up the racks this season.

Simple gowns are still popular. But plenty of beading, jewellery, ruffles, pleats, tiered skirts, and other stylish details adorn the stable of wedding gowns at her Moose Creek Mall store.

Ornamentation,
details emerge
as bridal fashion
trends

At least, try the dress on

Not all brides like the frills and flowers – at first, anyway.

The shoppers may spot their dream dress on the rack at Juliannah's – but wish a seemingly ostentatious flower or redundant ruffle wasn't there.

Many of the gowns' decorative accents are, in fact, removable. But Théoret encourages reluctant clients to at least try on the dress, give the unfamiliar detail a chance, and wear the dress as the designer intended.

Once on the female form, those dazzling little extras can go from extravagant to suitable very quickly.

Drop-waist dresses are also "in" this season, Théoret noted. A woman's true waist is located an inch above her belly button, but a gown's extended waist can create the illusion of a longer, leaner torso.

The waistline can be flattered by a full, romantic skirt, which is popular again.

Couple the flowing skirt and drop-waist with another trend – a lace-up, corset-style back that's particularly flattering for a curvy bride – and voilà, it's marriage magic.

Pretty for prom

Moose Creek Mall has a variety of formal wear stores, including Cinderella's Prom Shop, located directly beside Juliannah's Dress and Bridal.

The prom store provides teens with their own space to try on dresses. Despite the division between the two stores, you can still spot many of the same trends in both the bridal and prom merchandise. Ruffles, flowers, beading, full princess skirts, and more have made prom dresses more daring and fashion-forward in recent years.

The skirt lengths can vary, too.

"Short" is making a comeback," Théoret said.

All clients, she said, should enjoy the experience of shopping at her stores due to friendly staff. They strive to maintain the same customer service wherever they



A-head of the trends

Pictured are some of the devoted staff members who were on hand when the Winchester Press dropped by Juliannah's Dress and Bridal for an interview: Marie-France Léger (left); Mélanie Charbonneau-Théoret; Barbara Renaud; Headless Honey, modelling a Jasmine gown; Melanie Beland; Vivian Théoret, owner; and Louise Sabourin. Press Photo – Smith-Millar

go, including high-profile bridal industry events (such as the upcoming Welcome Wagon Bridal Showcase at the Cornwall Civic Complex on Mon., Feb. 28).

"Every woman, either young or mature, deserves the same customer service," Théoret said.

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